

The Social Science Research Group (SSRG) is established by agreement of the authorized representatives of the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, Director of the United States Information Agency, Director of the Foreign Operations Administration, Director of the Staff of the Operations Coordinating Board and the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. It is established in pursuance of the letter of the Director of Central Intelligence to the above named officials which seeks to develop means for coordination of the external social science research sponsored by these agencies for national security purposes.

The primary purpose of the Group will be: (a) to develop where feasible coherent and orderly external research programs providing the maximum benefit in the most efficient manner to the agencies concerned; (b) to insure that applicable internal research is taken into account in developing external research projects; (c) to insure wherever possible the adaptation of external research projects to meet the needs of agencies other than the sponsoring agency, and (d) to insure against duplication between external research projects.

In order to facilitate the work of the Group the Office of the Special Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence will be considered the focal point for the circulation of project proposals and the calling together of the Group at the instance of any member. Insofar as internal needs and procedures of the member agencies permit, it is understood that major project proposals including anticipated costs will be circulated in the form most convenient to the proposing agency for the information, comment and suggestion of the others and at a point sufficiently early in the formulation of the project that comments and suggestions, if appropriate, can be taken into account prior to conclusion of the contract. It is understood that final responsibility for a project will remain with the sponsoring agency unless by mutual agreement joint responsibility is agreed.

Each agency representative undertakes to make available to the members lists of internal research in process and completed in his agency in order that the selected government resources may be fully utilized in planning external research.

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